

Library

BOROUGH OF DAVENTRY

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR 1959

DAVENTRY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Telephone:
Daventry 60/1

Health Dept.,
Moot Hall,
DAVENTRY,
Northants.

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Daventry.

I have the honour to present my fourth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary circumstances of the town incorporating that of the Public Health Inspector.

The population again shows an increase from 5040 in mid-year 1958 to 5290 in mid-year 1959. Once again this is mainly due to industrial expansion.

The Birth Rate shows an increase of 9 on last year. The Crude Rate being 19.8 (Standardised Rate 19.2) and is in advance of the national figure of 16.5.

There were 93 deaths during the year, a decrease of one on last year. This gives a Crude rate of 17.6 (Standardised Rate 10.2). Over 50% of the deaths are caused by disease of the heart and circulation. The causes of vascular degeneration are today the object of much research and one must hope that a knowledge and clearer understanding of how to control and prevent arterial disease will emerge. In this district, diseases of the respiratory system take the next greatest toll of life, and we note with concern 11 deaths from influenza, 4 from pneumonia and 6 from bronchitis. Cancer caused 9 deaths, four of these from cancer of the lung. The great majority of these deaths are the result of the ageing population and while the causes of cancer and arterial disease remain unsolved the span of life is not likely to increase even though more are living to reach the later decades of life.

There was a very marked increase in the number of notifications of infectious disease both as a result of the biennial incidence of measles, and the outbreak of Sonne dysentery which affected the town during the summer months. A full description of this infection is given in the report. In all, 105 cases were notified, none were fortunately seriously ill, and the mildness of the illness was one of the main reasons for its ubiquity. Many ignored symptoms, and did not consult doctors or remain away from school or work. As a result the infection was well developed before the health personnel became aware of it.

The campaign against poliomyelitis proceeded and many adults and children were vaccinated. The high rate of vaccination against Smallpox continues, but is somewhat less than last year when there were 96 births and 96 primary vaccinations! There are too few children receiving booster immunization for diphtheria and parents are reminded not to overlook the reinforcing dose due before entering school.

The number of new Council houses completed was very high making a total of 90 altogether. Of this number 84 were for families coming into the town under the Industrial Expansion Scheme, leaving 6 for local needs. Very satisfactory progress was maintained with slum clearance and 13 families were re-housed from condemned properties. In addition 57 new houses and bungalows were built on private sites during the year.

It is gratifying to be able to report that the new sewage treatment works were completed within the estimated period of 18 months and in operation by mid-year.

In conclusion thanks are due to the Public Health Inspector, and all who contributed in any way towards the compilation of this report, to the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for help and encouragement, and to the County Medical Officer of Health for details of preventive measures against infectious diseases.

JOAN M. ST. V. DAWKINS,
Medical Officer of Health.

August, 1960.

The number of new General houses completed was very high during a total of 30 days. Of this number 24 were for families and 6 for the town under the Industrial Extension Board, leaving 6 for local needs. Very satisfactory progress was maintained with some diseases and 12 families were released from extended hospitalization. In addition 27 new houses and buildings were built or partly added during the year.

It is gratifying to be able to report that the new sewage treatment works were completed within the estimated period of 18 months and in operation by mid-year.

In conclusion thanks are due to the Public Health Inspector, and all who contributed in any way towards the completion of this report, to the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for help and encouragement, and to the County Medical Officer of Health for details of preventive measures against infectious diseases.

JOHN M. DE V. DAVENPORT,
Medical Officer of Health.

January, 1930.

B O R O U G H O F D A V E N T R Y

Members of the Public Health Committee:

Councillor Mrs. L.F. Borton (Chairman)

Aldermen W.G.S. Edwards, G. Williams

Councillors C.A. Cox, J.E. Lodge, T.R. Webb, J.K. Price,
L.E. Whitmee

Public Health Officers of the Borough of Daventry:

Joan M. St. V. Dawkins, M.B.B.S., D.P.H., D.C.H.,
Medical Officer of Health

Also holds the appointment of

Medical Officer of Health, Daventry Rural District Council

Medical Officer of Health, Brixworth Rural District Council

Assistant County Medical Officer of Health

and

County School Medical Officer

G.N. Schofield, R.S.I.J.B., M.A.P.H.I.,
Public Health Inspector.

Certified Inspector of Meat and Foods,
Shops Act Inspector,
Petroleum Officer.

Division of the Public Health Commission

Commissioner, L. F. Barker (Chairman)

Assistant, W. C. Barker, C. Williams

Commissioners, C. A. Cox, J. E. Smith, J. A. Smith, J. E. Smith,
J. E. Smith

Public Health Officers of the Borough of New York

John M. B. F. Barker, M.D., B.S., D.P.H., D.S.M.,
Medical Officer of Health

Also holds the appointment of

Medical Officer of Health, Borough of New York

Medical Officer of Health, Borough of New York

Assistant County Medical Officer of Health

and

County School Medical Officer

C. E. Schell, B.S., B.D., M.A., M.P.H.,
Public Health Inspector

Certified Inspector of Meat and Poultry,
Food and Inspection,
Petroleum Officer

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS 1959

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	3,633
Population	...	...	...	5,290
Number of separate dwellings occupied			...	1,769
Rateable Value 1959 (April)		...	...	£88,245
Product of a Penny Rate	...	...	...	£320 12 5d.

LIVE BIRTHS: (Rate per 1000 estimated population)

	Male	Female	Total	Rate	Rate E & W
Legitimate	51	49	100		16.5
Illegitimate	1	4	5		
	52	53	105	19.8 (SR.19.2)	

STILL BIRTHS: (Rate per 1000 live and still births)

1	2	3	27.7	20.7
---	---	---	------	------

Total Live and Still Births

Male	Female
53	55

INFANT DEATHS

	Male	Female		
Total	2	-	19.0	22
Legitimate	2	-		
Illegitimate	-	-		

<u>INFANT MORTALITY:</u> (Rate per 1000 live births)	-	Total	19.0
" " " " " "	-	Legitimate	19.0
" " " " " "	-	Illegitimate	Nil

NEONATAL (1st 4 weeks) Male Female

Total	2	-	19.0	15.8
Legitimate	2	-	19.0	
Illegitimate	-	-	Nil	

Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	...	5%
Maternal Deaths (including abortion)		Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1000 live births & still births		Nil
		.38

<u>DEATHS</u> (all causes)	Male	Female	Total	Rate	Rate E & W
	49	44	93	17.6 (SR.10.2)	11.6

DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES Nil

MORTALITY TABLE 1959

Cause of Death			Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	1	-	1
Tuberculosis, other	...	...	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	...	...	-	-	-
Diphtheria	...	...	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	...	...	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	...	...	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	-	-	-
Measles	...	...	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases			-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus		...	4	-	4
Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	-	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms			2	1	3
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	-	-	-
Diabetes	...	...	1	-	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	2	6	8
Coronary disease, angina	...	...	6	4	10
Hypertension with heart disease		...	-	-	-
Other heart disease	...	...	11	15	26
Other circulatory disease	...	...	3	1	4
Influenza	...	...	6	5	11
Pneumonia	...	...	2	2	4
Bronchitis	...	...	4	2	6
Other disease of respiratory system		...	-	-	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	-	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea		...	-	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	1	-	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion		...	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations	...	...	1	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases			2	5	7
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	-	-	-
All other accidents	...	...	2	-	2
Suicide	...	...	1	-	1
Homicide and operations of war		...	-	-	-
TOTALS			49	44	93

STATE OF NEW YORK

COUNTY OF ALBANY		TOWN OF ALBANY		WARD OF ALBANY		NAME OF PERSON		RESIDENCE	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110
111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120
121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130
131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140
141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150
151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160
161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170
171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180
181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190
191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200
201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210
211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220
221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230
231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240
241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250
251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260
261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270
271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280
281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290
291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300
301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310
311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320
321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330
331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340
341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350
351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360
361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369	370
371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380
381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390
391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400
401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410
411	412	413	414	415	416	417	418	419	420
421	422	423	424	425	426	427	428	429	430
431	432	433	434	435	436	437	438	439	440
441	442	443	444	445	446	447	448	449	450
451	452	453	454	455	456	457	458	459	460
461	462	463	464	465	466	467	468	469	470
471	472	473	474	475	476	477	478	479	480
481	482	483	484	485	486	487	488	489	490
491	492	493	494	495	496	497	498	499	500
501	502	503	504	505	506	507	508	509	510
511	512	513	514	515	516	517	518	519	520
521	522	523	524	525	526	527	528	529	530
531	532	533	534	535	536	537	538	539	540
541	542	543	544	545	546	547	548	549	550
551	552	553	554	555	556	557	558	559	560
561	562	563	564	565	566	567	568	569	570
571	572	573	574	575	576	577	578	579	580
581	582	583	584	585	586	587	588	589	590
591	592	593	594	595	596	597	598	599	600
601	602	603	604	605	606	607	608	609	610
611	612	613	614	615	616	617	618	619	620
621	622	623	624	625	626	627	628	629	630
631	632	633	634	635	636	637	638	639	640
641	642	643	644	645	646	647	648	649	650
651	652	653	654	655	656	657	658	659	660
661	662	663	664	665	666	667	668	669	670
671	672	673	674	675	676	677	678	679	680
681	682	683	684	685	686	687	688	689	690
691	692	693	694	695	696	697	698	699	700
701	702	703	704	705	706	707	708	709	710
711	712	713	714	715	716	717	718	719	720
721	722	723	724	725	726	727	728	729	730
731	732	733	734	735	736	737	738	739	740
741	742	743	744	745	746	747	748	749	750
751	752	753	754	755	756	757	758	759	760
761	762	763	764	765	766	767	768	769	770
771	772	773	774	775	776	777	778	779	780
781	782	783	784	785	786	787	788	789	790
791	792	793	794	795	796	797	798	799	800
801	802	803	804	805	806	807	808	809	810
811	812	813	814	815	816	817	818	819	820
821	822	823	824	825	826	827	828	829	830
831	832	833	834	835	836	837	838	839	840
841	842	843	844	845	846	847	848	849	850
851	852	853	854	855	856	857	858	859	860
861	862	863	864	865	866	867	868	869	870
871	872	873	874	875	876	877	878	879	880
881	882	883	884	885	886	887	888	889	890
891	892	893	894	895	896	897	898	899	900
901	902	903	904	905	906	907	908	909	910
911	912	913	914	915	916	917	918	919	920
921	922	923	924	925	926	927	928	929	930
931	932	933	934	935	936	937	938	939	940
941	942	943	944	945	946	947	948	949	950
951	952	953	954	955	956	957	958	959	960
961	962	963	964	965	966	967	968	969	970
971	972	973	974	975	976	977	978	979	980
981	982	983	984	985	986	987	988	989	990
991	992	993	994	995	996	997	998	999	1000

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS OVER PREVIOUS 5 YEARS

Year	Estimated Population	Births		Deaths			
		No.	Crude Rate	Under 1 year		All Ages	
				No.	Rate	No.	Rate
1955	4500	79	17.71	Nil	Nil	59	13.11
1956	4580	86	18.77	3	34.88	67	14.63
1957	4870	83	17.04	2	24.09	70	14.37
1958	5040	96	19.05	1	10.4	94	18.6
1959	5290	105	19.8	2	19.0	93	17.6
			(S.R. 19.2)				(S.R. 10.2)

SECTION A

Natural and Social Conditions

AREA

The acreage of the Town is 3,633 and the population is now 5,290.

Daventry is one of the Ancient Boroughs and received its first charter from Queen Elizabeth I in 1576. For many years Daventry was a prosperous market town, with its wide rural boundaries and its central, although rather cramped, urban area. It was a busy coaching centre, and the latter provided its main industry, that of whip making. With the disappearance of the coach, employment was provided by the boot and shoe industry and later by addition of the B.B.C. Transmitting Station at Borough Hill.

The character of the town is now changing. Since 1953/54 when a large tapered roller bearing factory of British Timken was established to the North of the Town, there has been steady increase of population. The old town still remains, but what is virtually a new town with its well spaced modern dwellings, is arising to the North and South. Further industrial expansion and development is expected, and a new era of progress and prosperity is anticipated for the town.

POPULATION

The estimated mid-year population in 1959, calculated by the Registrar General, was 5,290 representing an increase of 250 on the 1958 figure. Natural increase, excess of births over deaths, was calculated to be 12, the difference being due mainly to movement into the town in connection with industrial expansion.

DEATHS

93 deaths compared with 94 for the previous year, gave a crude rate of 17.6 compared with 18.6 for 1958. (S.R.10.2).

Over half the deaths are caused by diseases of the heart, and the vascular system making a total of 48 deaths, 10 deaths resulting from coronary disease of the heart, 26 from other heart diseases, 8 from vascular lesions of the nervous system and a further 4 from other circulatory disease. These constitute nearly 53% of total deaths. Much research is in progress at the present time concerning the causes of atherosclerosis, the mainly degenerative condition of the arteries which so often is the cause of death. It is largely an ageing process commencing earlier in some than others, but many other factors which include those attributable to civilization may play a part, these include lack of exercise, diet, smoking, stress and perhaps hormonal factors. None have been conclusively proved. Each may play its part. The length of life will probably remain much the same until an answer is found.

We have in this district 21 deaths from respiratory infection, 11 from influenza that we note with some concern, 4 from pneumonia and 6 from bronchitis. There are 9 deaths from cancer. There are more deaths from respiratory infection than from cancer. Influenza and bronchitis are still the cause of much ill health, and are together the most frequent cause of incapacity for work.

BIRTHS

Live births numbered 105 giving a rate of 19.8 (S.R. 19.2) per thousand live births, which was higher than that of 1958 when 96 births occurred.

INFANT DEATHS

Two infants died, both were under 4 weeks of age.

CAUSES OF INFANT DEATHS

<u>Neonatal (1st 4 weeks)</u>	<u>1 - 12 months</u>
Birth injury	Nil
Congenital defect	

STILLBIRTHS

3 stillbirths were recorded during the year.

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS

5 illegitimate births took place during the year, 4 more than in 1958.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

No maternal deaths were recorded during the year.

SECTION B

General Provisions of Health Service

LABORATORY SERVICE

The Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service is available for work in connection with the diagnosis and control of Infectious Diseases. It is situated adjacent to Northampton General Hospital. The cooperation and able service which is always provided is greatly appreciated.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

General medical surgical and infectious disease cases are moved by units of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, acting as agents for the County Council.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

An Infant Welfare Clinic is held in the Abbey Buildings on the third Friday of each month. A monthly Antenatal Clinic is also conducted.

There is still no permanent Dental Clinic in the town but the County Council Mobile Dental Unit pays periodic visits.

TUBERCULOSIS

The Tuberculosis After-Care Committee continued to serve both the Borough and the surrounding Rural District.

Since August 1955 a chest clinic service has been instituted at fortnightly intervals at the Danetre Hospital, and continues to be of great service to local patients.

NURSING AT HOME

Health Visitors, District Nurses and Midwives are provided by the County Council.

HOME HELP SERVICE

This Service is also provided by the County Council, and is of particular value both in illness and for old people who may with the assistance of a home help remain at home rather than be sent to an institution.

HOSPITAL SERVICES

All infectious disease cases, excepting only Tuberculosis sufferers, are treated at Harborough Road Isolation Hospital, Northampton, while general medical and surgical cases receive treatment at Danetree Hospital, Northampton General Hospital or Hospital of St. Cross, Rugby.

OLD PEOPLE

Darby & Joan Club

This Club which has been run voluntarily by the W.V.S. for 11 years, has a membership of over 50. Meetings are held every Friday afternoon which are very well attended, and very popular. During the year various outings have been arranged to places of interest, and other clubs. A garden party is also held annually.

Thanks are expressed to Ladies of this Organisation who by their service do so much to help the old people.

National Assistance Act 1947 Sec. 47 (Amendment 1951)

It was necessary to make application to court for a three month order in respect of one old lady who had previously been removed earlier in the year under a three week order.

SECTION C

Sanitary Circumstances of the District

WATER SUPPLY

The source of the town's water supply was Pitsford reservoir. This gigantic reservoir was brought into use during 1957 by the Mid-Northamptonshire Water Board and that authority is to be congratulated on providing a pure and adequate supply during what must have been one of the driest summers within memory.

The water was moderately hard being measured at 120 parts per million degrees hardness. In common with other parts of the county the water contained traces of iron but was free from any excess minerals.

Extensions were made to the main supply services to provide water to more than 150 new homes which were occupied during the year.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

Where necessary disinfection was carried out by the Health Department Staff. Advice was also given to householders on how best to prevent the spread of infection and a great deal of time was spent in this connection during the outbreak of Some Dysentery.

Very little trouble arose from houses becoming infested with vermin, although a lot of complaints were received concerning wasps, ants and earwigs. Suitable spraying was carried out against these pests.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The main sewerage system is available for the whole of the town excepting a very small number of isolated dwellings which are nearly all provided with individual septic tanks.

The older part of the town has a combined system of drainage whereby both foul and surface water is accepted into the same sewer, whereas in the new areas recently developed the surface water is conveyed by a separate sewer to a convenient water course.

Construction of the new sewage treatment works which commenced during 1957 was completed towards the middle of the year. The results of samples of the effluent from the new works are very satisfactory. This is a big step forward from the public health aspect as the community have a right to expect that liquid waste shall be treated so as not to cause damage to natural waters and to comply with proper standards before discharge to outfall. The outfall in this case is the canal feeder reservoir situated along Welton Road.

RODENT CONTROL

The number of treatments carried out against rodents was almost the same as during the previous year and the work carried out by your Rodent Operative was very effective. The infestations complained of were very slight, in most cases involving only one or two rats. Although the rat population is now at a low level it must be remembered that any lapse in their control would soon result in an increase in the number of rats and consequently a risk to health.

A free service was provided for treatment of domestic premises while a charge was made to cover costs at business premises.

Details of treatment of rat infestations are set out below:-

	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>
Dwellinghouses	54	48
Business Premises	2	2
Local Authority	4	6
Agricultural	4	1

In addition to the above the Council agreed upon request to carry out destruction of rodents at one large factory throughout the year under contract.

REFUSE COLLECTION

Refuse collection was undertaken at weekly intervals from all dwellings within the Borough. This service was carried out in a satisfactory manner and all refuse was removed to the tip situated along the Dodford road. This tip has been in use for approximately 6 years and was almost full at the end of the year. There is a problem in this respect as due to the development of the town there is a considerable increase in the amount of refuse to be collected. It is a matter of urgency to secure an alternative site for refuse disposal in order to be able to carry out the present service.

Regular treatments were carried out and special attention was paid to dealing with rodents, to the control of fly breeding, and to destroying crickets on the tip.

The operation of a Municipal Dustbin Scheme over the past $5\frac{1}{2}$ years has helped to secure the provision of proper refuse containers at dwellings. Altogether 57 bins have been supplied at an annual charge of 7/6d. per bin.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Four licences were granted permitting caravans to be stationed on sites. Regular inspection showed these to be well maintained. One application for a licence was refused due to the poor condition of the caravan and also on account of it being inadequate in size and lacking in amenities normally required for occupation.

The rapid growth in the number of caravans for use as permanent homes has caused some concern in certain parts of the country. The question of water supply, sanitary accommodation, waste water and refuse, access and paving are all matters that must be dealt with. There is also the question of fire resistance which calls for proper standards in construction. There is no doubt that unsatisfactory sites have and do exist and these have done much to encourage slum caravanners.

Generally speaking caravans are suitable for single persons or married couples but not always where large families or old people are concerned. In view of the improvements being made to caravans now being manufactured and owing to their low cost as compared with that of a new house it is to be expected that their number may continue to increase. There is an urgent need for simple and clear legislation to improve present control in the interests of those dwelling in caravans. Provision of proper sites is the only satisfactory way to attempt to deal with this controversial problem and local Health Authorities must be prepared to take an active part in this relatively new field of environmental hygiene.

PETROLEUM REGULATION ACTS 1928-1936

Twenty one installations were the subject of licences to store petroleum spirit under the above regulations. The new safety standards in respect of Electrical Equipment associated with petroleum pumps came into operation 1st January 1960. By the end of the year 6 premises still required modification or replacement of pumps.

The demand for this type of work was great throughout the country during the latter part of the year and was the reason why delay occurred in same being completed at these premises.

Extra time has been spent by your Officer in bringing about a reasonable standard of safety in the town where petroleum spirit is concerned and a better appreciation of the risks involved has resulted from this tightening up of matters generally.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

At present there is no public swimming bath in the town and the nearest is situated some 12 miles away at Northampton.

The Daventry & District Swimming Pool Association which is an entirely voluntary organization was formed some 2 years ago and since its inception has raised some £8,000 towards the provision of a much wanted swimming pool at Daventry.

SECTION D

HOUSING

The rate of house building was very high during the year and 90 houses and flats were completed by the Council. Of this number 84 houses and flats were for families coming into the town under the Industrial Expansion Scheme. The remaining 6 houses were the first ones of the current programme of 20 being built for local needs in connection with slum clearance.

A total of 20 Council houses became vacant during the 12 months. In most of these cases the tenants were moving into their own new homes which had been built on sites within the Borough.

By re-letting dwellings which became vacant the Housing Committee was able to help a considerable number of families on the waiting list despite the fact that building for local needs was actually reduced to providing for re-housing persons from condemned properties.

The number of private dwellings built was very high and altogether 57 houses and bungalows were completed with a further 50 under construction at the end of the year.

Greater interest was shown in the modernization of older properties judging by the larger number of enquiries made concerning Improvement Grants. It is very desirable that such improvements be made and the introduction of the simplified Standard Grant Scheme is already giving added impetus to this task. A general modernization of the 120 pre-war Council houses on a similar pattern to that laid down for a Standard Grant would be of vast benefit to the tenants. The schemes to improve older houses have been primarily aimed at dealing with houses which are structurally sound and in this category.

2 Condemned houses were demolished and a further 12 Demolition Orders were made during the period. At the end of the year there were 48 condemned houses standing and 17 of these were still being occupied.

The re-housing of families from the derelict property situated in Abbey street was almost completed. This site was purchased with the idea of building accommodation for older persons on a central site. Not only is this type of accommodation urgently required but the re-development of decaying areas within the town will be a great improvement generally.

HOUSING STATISTICS

I Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year:-

1	(a) Number of dwellinghouses inspected for Public Health or Housing Act defects	...	191
	(b) Number of Inspections made	...	504
2	Number of houses unfit for human habitation and incapable of repair at reasonable expense still to be dealt with (figure at 31st December 1959)	...	40
3	Number of condemned houses still standing and vacant	...	30
4	Number of condemned houses still standing and occupied	...	18

II Remedy of defects during the year without the service of formal notice:-

	Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or Officers	...	43
--	--	-----	----

III Action under Statutory powers during the year:-

A. Proceedings under Sec. 9 & 16 of Housing Act, 1957:-

1	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	2
2	Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit after service of formal notices:-		
	a) by owners	...	2
	b) by Local Authority in default of owners	...	-

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

1	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	3
2	Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-		
	a) by owners	...	1
	b) by Local Authority in default of owners	...	2

III Action under Statutory powers during the year (Continued)

C. Proceedings under Sec. 16, 17 & 35 Housing Act, 1957:-				
1	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	12
2	Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	2
3	Number of dwellinghouses demolished by informal agreement with owners	...	...	-
4	Number of dwellinghouses closed in pursuance of undertakings not to relet at end of present tenancy accepted by Council under Section 11	...		2
D. Proceedings under Sec. 42 Housing Act 1957:-				
1	Number of houses dealt with	...	...	-
2	Number of Clearance Orders made	...	...	-
3	Number of houses demolished in Clearance Areas			-

IV Housing Act 1957 Part IV - Overcrowding

1	(a) Number of dwellinghouses overcrowded at end of year	...	...	2
	(b) Number of families dwelling therein		...	4
	(c) Number of persons dwelling therein		...	15
2	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	1
3	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	2
	Number of persons concerned in such cases		...	11
4	Number of cases in which dwellinghouses became overcrowded again after Local Authority had taken steps to abate same	...	...	Nil

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD AND DRINK

Regular inspections were carried out at shops and other premises used for the preparation and sale of food to the public. The standard of cleanliness and hygiene at such premises was generally good but in certain instances improvements were sought. It is the duty of the local Health Authority to see that all food is properly stored and handled before being sold in their district and a considerable amount of time was spent by your Public Health Inspector on routine inspection duties.

Any contravention of the Food Hygiene Regulations were brought to the notice of those concerned at the time of your Inspector's visit. I am glad to report in no case was it necessary to resort to legal proceedings to secure compliance with these regulations.

There would appear to be an increase in the number of vehicles used as mobile food shops especially for the sale of ice cream and fruit and vegetables. It was generally found that in the former case vehicles have been specially designed for the purpose and provided with satisfactory equipment and washing facilities but this was not always the case with the latter. There are a large number of houses on the outskirts of the town with relatively few shops and this no doubt accounts for the increase of such traders.

One private slaughterhouse was licensed and used during the year, otherwise the bulk of the meat supplied came from outside the Borough. A report dealing with slaughterhouses is required to be submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food before November 1960.

Licences were issued to three milk retailers to supply pasteurized, tuberculin and sterilized milk within the area and a satisfactory supply was maintained.

A further change in legislation took effect from 8th March, 1959 when the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations came into operation. These Regulations introduced a number of changes in methods of milk production and for securing cleanliness in its handling and distribution. Further provisions are included for protecting milk against contamination or infection and for the exclusion of persons employed in the milk trade who are suffering from a disease liable to cause infection of milk.

Premises registered for the sale of ice cream were visited periodically and found to be satisfactory. Steps were also taken to inspect vehicles selling ice cream within the Borough. No ice cream was manufactured locally.

Details of samples of food taken in the Borough of Daventry by the Staff of the Northamptonshire County Council are reproduced below:-

Milk	12
Condensed Milk	1
Cream	1
Ice Cream	1
Butter	1
Jam	1
Lard	1
Fish Cakes	1
Potatoes	1
Pork Sausage	2
Whisky	1
	—
TOTAL	23
	==

Certificates were issued to traders submitting food for voluntary condemnation and in most cases consisted of tins of food which had been damaged, or the contents had not been properly sterilized on being canned. This type of unsound food was relatively small in quantity and was removed by the Health Department for disposal by burying at the refuse tip.

The following animals were slaughtered during the year at the one private slaughterhouse situate within the Borough:-

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	48	Nil	Nil	367	57	Nil
Number inspected	48	--	--	367	57	--
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci</u> Whole carcasses condemned	--	--	--	--	--	--
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	9	--	--	9	--	--
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	18.7	--	--	2.4	--	--
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u> Whole carcasses condemned	--	--	--	--	--	--
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	--	--	--	--	3	--
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	--	--	--	--	5.5	--
<u>Cysticercosis</u> Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	--	--	--	--	--	--
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	--	--	--	--	--	--
Generalised and totally condemned	--	--	--	--	--	--

SECTION F

Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious and other Diseases

There was a very marked increase in the notification of infectious diseases due to both the outbreak of Sonne dysentery in the town and the biennial incidence of measles.

Disease	Male	Female	Total	Rate per 1000 total population
Scarlet Fever	2	4	6	1.2
Acute Primary Pneumonia	4	-	4	0.8
Whooping Cough	1	-	1	0.2
Measles	48	45	93	17.6
Dysentery	49	56	105	19.8
Food Poisoning	-	3	3	0.6
Tuberculosis Respiratory	-	-	-	-
" other forms	1	-	1	0.2
TOTAL	105	108	213	

Measles 93 cases were notified. This disease like scarlet fever is now largely following a more benign course. Infectivity remains still very high and few attain adult life without suffering from the disease. Occasional complications such as pneumonia, ear and eye infections do still occur especially in those whose resistance was low at the time of infection.

Scarlet Fever 6 cases. This disease continues in its mild phase.

Food Poisoning Three cases were notified.

Case No. 1 Salmonella St. Paul. This occurred in a housewife, and as the infection is rare aroused much interest. The source was never found, but was thought probably to have come from the handling of raw meat or sausage meat. The only member of the family affected was the wife who prepared and handled all the uncooked food. Sausage meat, and swabs from the sewers both in the retail shop and from the abattoir in Northampton were examined but found to be negative.

The case was an isolated one. A doctor from the Central Public Health Laboratory, who was making a special study of salmonella St. Paul visited Daventry and offered valuable advice on the tracing of the infection.



Case No. 2 Salmonella Thomson.

This was also an isolated case occurring in a woman in the late fifties. No other member of the family or contacts were affected. The infection was considered possibly to have come from rats as there was evidence of them in the garden shed. The patient had been gardening and her dog, which she often stroked had been chasing the rats. No rats however were caught for pathological investigation.

Case No. 3

Salmonella Typhimurium. This case was in a girl of 10 years. Another isolated case with no infection in family or contacts. The source of this infection could not be traced.

Poliomyelitis No cases occurred. Once again large numbers of children and adults were vaccinated, making a total of 167 under 15, and 396 over 15 receiving primary vaccination, and 603 under 15 and 165 over 15 receiving 3rd injections.

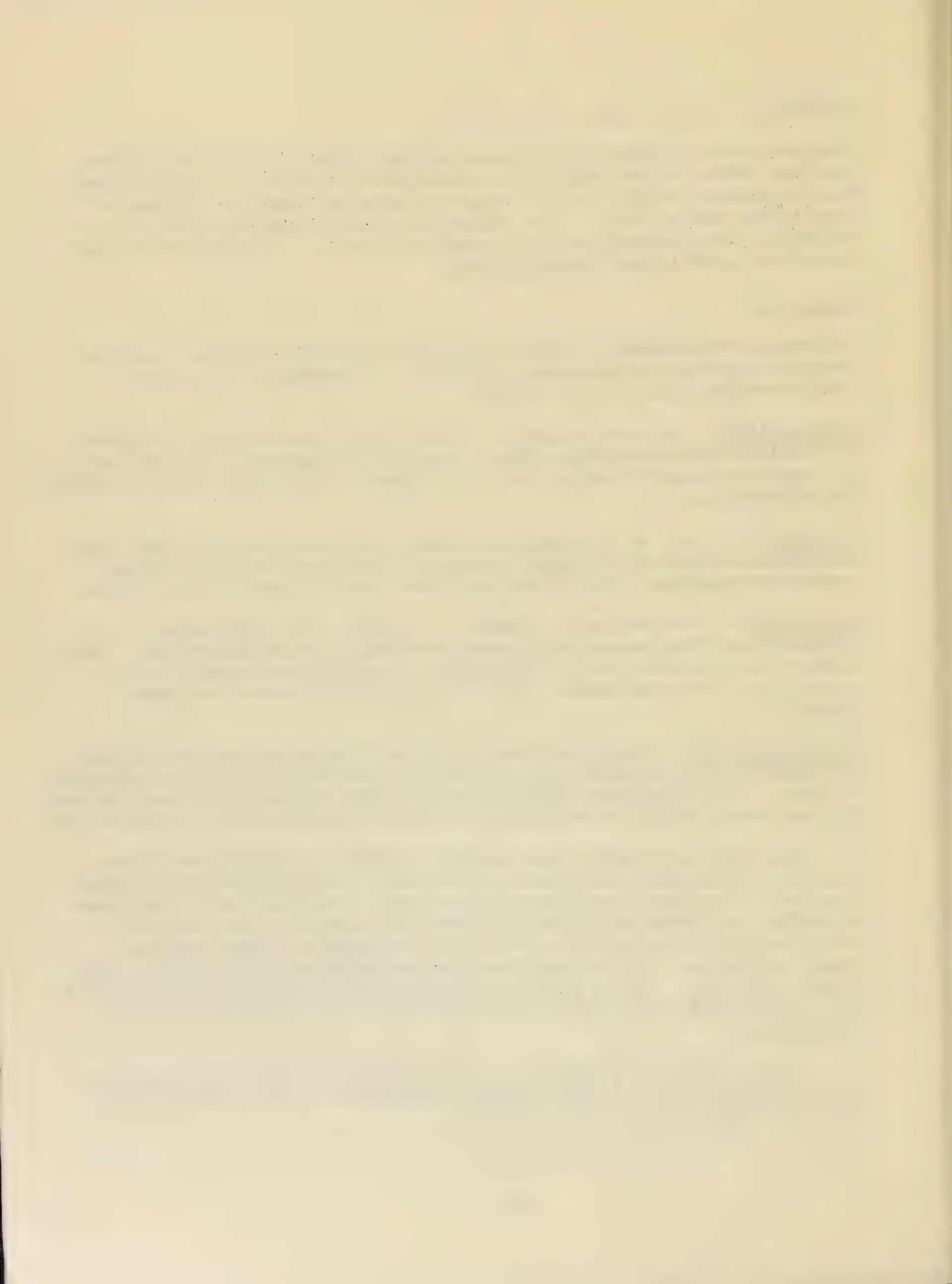
Smallpox A total of 99 vaccinations were performed and it is once again gratifying to note what a high percentage of infants born in the town receive vaccination, though this year there were 18 less than last year.

Diphtheria No cases have occurred. A total of 115 diphtheria immunizations were made with 36 cases receiving booster injections. This latter figure is less than is desirable and parents are reminded of the necessity of the reinforcing dose for diphtheria to ensure continued immunity.

Shigellosis A large outbreak of 105 notified cases occurred during the summer months starting on April 20th and continuing until the beginning of June. Notifications declined markedly after the schools closed for the Whitsun break, ending on May 25th and the last notification was on June 5th.

The first notification was promptly visited and fully investigated, and it was then found that there were a number of primary school children involved. Further investigation showed that already numbers of children attending the infant school had suffered mild symptoms, some had been away from school for a day or two and had returned without consulting their own doctor. In the meantime home contacts and other playmates had become infected. It was further realised that infection had been present for sometime prior to realisation of its import by doctors and health personnel.

At the onset all positive cases were visited and investigations made of all contacts, and if these included children from the primary school they were also examined pathologically.



Investigations were pursued in respect of any food handler, baby minder or an attendant on the aged or sick. Full instructions on measures of hygiene were issued at each home visited, also a pamphlet on Dysentery issued by the Central Council for Health Education was provided.

The primary school was paid very strict attention, as it was considered that this was the most likely source of infection and that probably spread was taking place from it. The County Medical Officer sent a letter to each parent, appraising them of the situation and requesting that each child be provided with an individual hand towel. The roller towels were confiscated and detailed instructions on washing of hands, hygiene of lavatories, floors, seats, washbasins etc. were given. The food handlers in the kitchen were tested and given similar instructions.

At the outset three negative stools before re-entry to school were requested, but when it was realised that so many children had been infected and that there were probably many symptomless carriers already in the school, it was considered impracticable to request more than one negative stool and clinical recovery before return to school.

At one shop a food handler was found to be carrying the infection as also was a milk roundsman, both were kept off work until negative. Fortunately the disease was mild and there were few cases who were seriously ill, though some infants became infected. Sensitivity tests were carried out and the organism responded, for the most part, successfully to sulphonamides, though antibiotics were used in some cases.

Conclusions

It was felt that the infection was widespread in the community before the health personnel were aware of its presence. In addition to clinical cases there were a number of symptomless carriers. The primary school was the probable reservoir of infection and source of major spread. As the incubation period is only 48 hours it was considered fruitless to isolate carriers as many contacts were in all probability, incubating the disease. It was also considered that the clinical case is much more infectious, and therefore, only those who had symptoms were excluded. Hygiene measures in an infant school, where the lavatories are across the playground also presents many hazards, and though the co-operation between teachers, school caretakers, and cleaners were excellent cases still continued until the school closed for the Whitsun break.

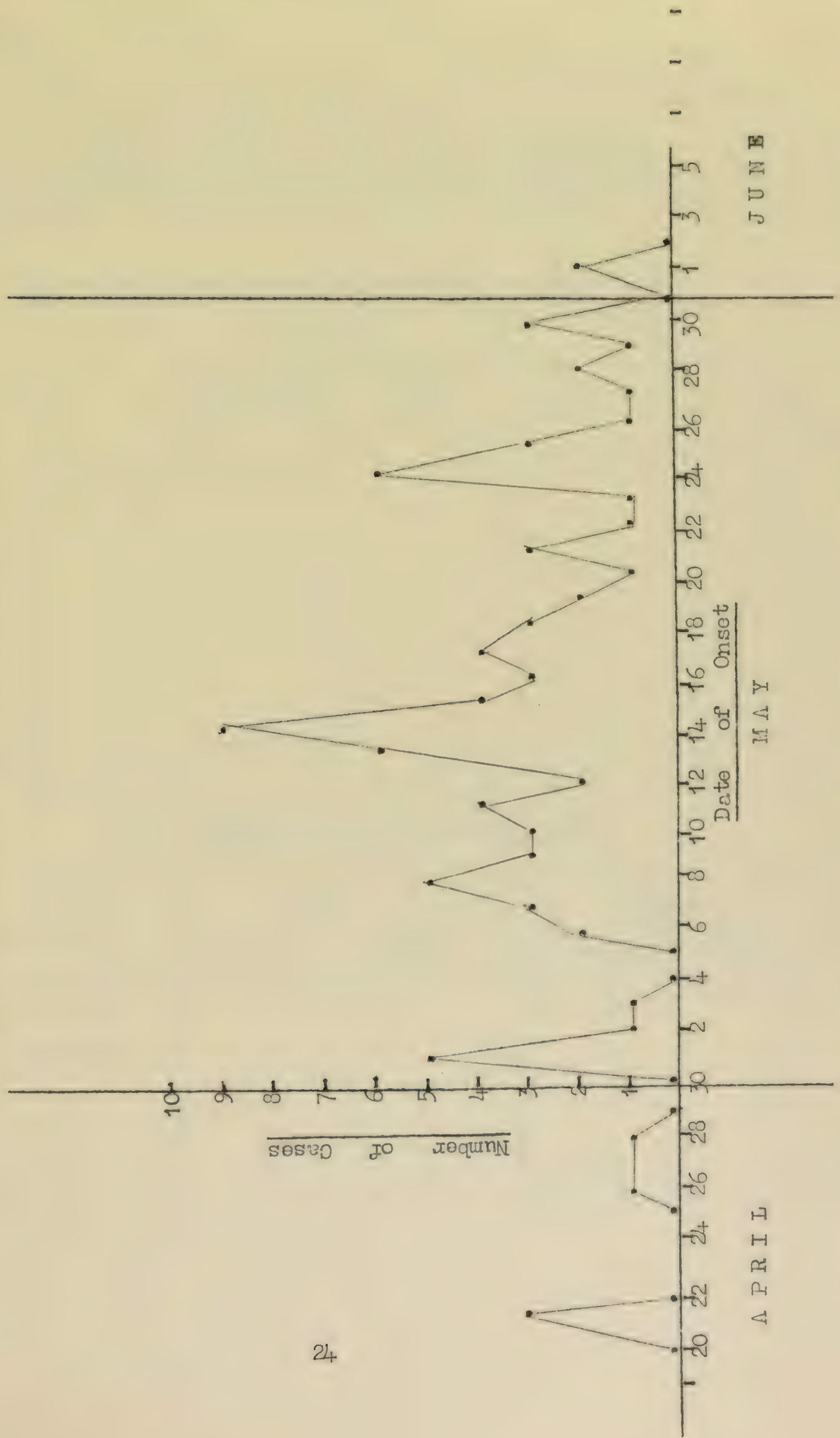
To quote the Lancet:-

"A day school is a fortress without defences against Sonne dysentery ... if its walls were manned by all the specialists in preventive medicine it would probably never open." (Lancet 1959, i 7082 P.1084).

Finally particular tribute is paid to the Public Health Inspector who was indefatigable in his pursuit of infection and who did an immense amount of work throughout the outbreak.

The following chart shows the onset, and course of the infection. The Whitsun break was on May 18th, incidence declined for two weeks and thereafter no more cases occurred.

DIAGRAM SHOWING DYSENTERY (Sonne) OUTBREAK 1959



TUBERCULOSIS

One case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis was notified during the year.

With the continued decline in new cases of tuberculosis it is stimulating to learn that the local After Care Committee has now extended its activities to help persons who are chronic sufferers of other forms of chest diseases.

Age and Sex distribution of new cases and deaths 1959

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Other		Pulmonary		Other	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 -	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
35 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 plus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-

Cases on Register at 31st December, 1959

Designation	Males		Females		TOTAL
	Pulmonary	Other	Pulmonary	Other	
Notified in 1959	-	1	-	-	1
Inward Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Deaths	1	-	-	-	1
Removals	-	-	1	1	2
Remaining	18	3	14	1	36

Received of the Treasurer of the County of ... the sum of ... Dollars for ...

Date		Amount		Particulars	
Jan 1	1900	100.00		Balance forward	
Jan 15	1900	50.00		Received from ...	
Feb 1	1900	25.00		Received from ...	
Feb 15	1900	75.00		Received from ...	
Mar 1	1900	150.00		Received from ...	
Mar 15	1900	100.00		Received from ...	
Apr 1	1900	200.00		Received from ...	
Apr 15	1900	125.00		Received from ...	
May 1	1900	300.00		Received from ...	
May 15	1900	175.00		Received from ...	
Jun 1	1900	400.00		Received from ...	
Jun 15	1900	225.00		Received from ...	
Jul 1	1900	500.00		Received from ...	
Jul 15	1900	275.00		Received from ...	
Aug 1	1900	600.00		Received from ...	
Aug 15	1900	325.00		Received from ...	
Sep 1	1900	700.00		Received from ...	
Sep 15	1900	375.00		Received from ...	
Oct 1	1900	800.00		Received from ...	
Oct 15	1900	425.00		Received from ...	
Nov 1	1900	900.00		Received from ...	
Nov 15	1900	475.00		Received from ...	
Dec 1	1900	1000.00		Received from ...	
Dec 15	1900	525.00		Received from ...	
Total		10000.00			

Witness my hand and seal this ... day of ... 1900

Date		Amount		Particulars	
Jan 1	1900	100.00		Balance forward	
Jan 15	1900	50.00		Received from ...	
Feb 1	1900	25.00		Received from ...	
Feb 15	1900	75.00		Received from ...	
Mar 1	1900	150.00		Received from ...	
Mar 15	1900	100.00		Received from ...	
Apr 1	1900	200.00		Received from ...	
Apr 15	1900	125.00		Received from ...	
May 1	1900	300.00		Received from ...	
May 15	1900	175.00		Received from ...	
Jun 1	1900	400.00		Received from ...	
Jun 15	1900	225.00		Received from ...	
Jul 1	1900	500.00		Received from ...	
Jul 15	1900	275.00		Received from ...	
Aug 1	1900	600.00		Received from ...	
Aug 15	1900	325.00		Received from ...	
Sep 1	1900	700.00		Received from ...	
Sep 15	1900	375.00		Received from ...	
Oct 1	1900	800.00		Received from ...	
Oct 15	1900	425.00		Received from ...	
Nov 1	1900	900.00		Received from ...	
Nov 15	1900	475.00		Received from ...	
Dec 1	1900	1000.00		Received from ...	
Dec 15	1900	525.00		Received from ...	
Total		10000.00			

SECTION G

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Part I - Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health

	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sects. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority	15	29	2	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sect. 7 is enforced	38	75	4	-
(iii) Other premises (excluding outworkers' premises) in which Sect. 7 is enforced	14	26	2	-
	67	130	8	Nil

Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of Prosecution
	Found	Remedied	Ref. to H.M. Insp.	Ref. by H.M.I.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temp. (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Vent. (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floor (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	2	2	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	4	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (except outworkers)	-	-	-	-	-
	8	8	-	-	Nil

PART VIII - Outworkers

Number of outworkers registered during the year ... 2

In these two cases the work was in connection with the making of wearing apparel (i.e. Boot & Shoe trade). Both premises were suitable for the carrying out of such work.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S VISITS DURING THE YEAR

Housing:

Repairs, Demolition Visits etc.	...	...	419
Overcrowding	...	...	14
Drainage, W.Cs. Sinks etc.	...	...	75
Water Supply	...	...	6
Food and Drugs and ancillary provisions	...	...	114
Food - Inspection and Condemnation	...	...	16
Slaughterhouse visits	...	...	80
Shops	...	...	23
Petroleum Licensing and Supervision	...	...	51
Refuse Collection	...	...	21
Refuse Disposal	...	...	10
Verminous Premises and Infestations	...	...	7
Infectious Disease and Food Poisoning	...	...	210
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	70
Pig keeping and other animal complaints	...	...	22
Nuisances	...	...	21
Public Conveniences	...	...	14
Theatres, Hotels and Places of Entertainment	...	...	31
Rodent Control	...	...	137
Schools	...	...	16
Temporary Dwellings	...	...	27
Interviews and Visits to Housing Applicants and Tenants of Council Houses	...	...	345
			<hr/>
			1,729
			<hr/>

Duplicated by
THE ALLEN-LYMAN SECRETARIAL BUREAU
NORTHAMPTON